

Fisher House Foundation

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Summary

The Fisher House Foundation is a unique private-public partnership that supports America's military in their time of need. The program recognizes the special sacrifices of men and women in uniform and the hardships of military service by meeting a humanitarian need beyond that normally provided by the Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs.

Because members of the military and their Families are stationed worldwide and must often travel great distances for specialized medical care, Fisher House Foundation donates "comfort homes," built on the grounds of major military and VA medical centers. These homes enable Family members to be close to a loved one at the most stressful times - during the hospitalization for an unexpected illness, disease, or injury.

There is at least one Fisher House at every major military medical center to assist Families in need and to ensure that they are provided with the comforts of home in a supportive environment. Annually, the Fisher House program serves more than 11,000 Families, and have made available nearly three million days of lodging to Family members since the program originated in 1990. By law, there is no charge for any Family to stay at a Fisher House operated by the Department of Veterans Affairs; and Fisher House Foundation uses donations to reimburse the individual Fisher Houses operated by the Army, Navy, and Air Force. **No Family pays to stay at any Fisher House!**

Typically, the houses are 5,000 to 16,000 square foot homes donated by Fisher House Foundation. Each house is designed to provide eight to 21 suites. All are professionally furnished and decorated in the tone and style of the local region. The houses can accommodate 16 to 42 Family members. They feature a common kitchen, laundry facilities, spacious dining room and an inviting living room with library, and toys for children.

Note: Fisher House Foundation, Inc., is a not-for-profit organization under section 501(c)(3) of the IRS code. Donations are tax deductible to the maximum extent allowed by law.

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Featured Programs

| Program | Description |
|--|---|
| Hero Miles Program | The Fisher House has provided more than 20,000 tickets to Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom hospitalized service members and their Families, worth nearly \$27 million (average savings per ticket is currently about \$1,300). |
| Newman's Own Award Program | \$75,000 in grants awarded to volunteer organizations each year recognizing unique opportunities to improve quality of life for military Families. |
| Scholarships for Military Children | More than \$8.3 million scholarship dollars have been awarded in ten years to recognize the contributions of military Families to the readiness of the fighting force and to celebrate the role of the commissary in the military Family community. |
| Team Fisher House | Team Fisher House is the online grassroots fundraising program of Fisher House Foundation. The program enables participants to become Champions for Military Families through community or Team Fisher House events, or by hosting events of their own. |

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Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What are the requirements to stay at a Fisher House? How do I reserve a room?

- A. Fisher Houses are given to the military services and Department of Veterans Affairs as a gift, and the commander or director of each medical center where the houses are located are responsible for establishing the eligibility, priorities, and selection criteria. Please communicate directly with a Fisher House manager for the requirements at a specific house from the [Locations Section](#).

Q. Is there a charge to stay at the Fisher House?

- A. No. Fisher Houses at VA medical centers do not charge a room fee; and effective October 1, 2006, all room fees for guest Families at all Army, Navy, and Air Force Fisher Houses are paid by Fisher House Foundation.

Q. Who runs a Fisher house?

- A. Fisher Houses are given to the U.S. Government as gifts. Military service secretaries and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs are responsible for the operation and maintenance of the homes. The Fisher House Foundation, Inc., a not-for-profit organization under section 501(c)(3) of the IRS code, builds new houses, and

assists in the coordination of private support and encourages public support for the homes.

Q. How can I donate to the Fisher House Foundation?

A. Donations can be made through mail or online. For more information about donating, [click here](#).

Q. Are donations tax deductible?

A. Yes, for those donors who itemize deductions when filing their tax returns. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) requires a receipt only if a donation is \$250 or more. For further information, please contact the IRS.

Q. What are in kind donations? Do you accept them?

A. In-kind donations are donations of goods and services rather than money. Fisher House Foundation does not accept them, but recommends you communicate directly with a specific Fisher House manager to determine local policies. Fisher House Foundation never accepts used furniture, toys, clothing, etc. for health reasons.

Q. Do Fisher Houses need volunteers? What skills or background are needed?

A. Volunteering is done at the local Fisher Houses, and not through the Fisher House Foundation. Contact the manager of a Fisher House directly - either by telephone or email. The manager is in a better position to know what is needed at his or her house. For a complete list of names, phone numbers, and email addresses for the managers, [click here](#).

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Links

- [Fisher House Foundation](#)
This website provides history about the Fisher House Foundation, a list of Fisher Home locations, and information about Fisher House featured programs.

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Points of Contact

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